

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed December 12, 2007, the Examiner noted that claims 1-3, 5-17, 24, 25 and 27 were pending, allowed claims 1-3, 5-7, 24 and 25, and rejected claims 8-12, 14-17 and 27. Claims 8-14, and 27 have been canceled and, thus, in view of the forgoing claims 1-3, 5-7, 15, 24 and 25 remain pending for reconsideration which is requested. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's rejection is traversed below.

Page 2 of the Office Action rejects claims 8-12, 14-17 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Nakajima, Yanagida and Shiiyama. On page 6 the Examiner allowed claims 1-3, 5-7, 24 and 25 because:

"The prior art fails to teach a plurality of corrected image variation of a given image, the variation corrected images including one representing the corrected image of a quality preferred widely among a large number of people and having been stored in said image correction apparatus."

Claim 15 recites:

outputting a plurality of corrected image variations of a given image, the variation of corrected images including one representing the corrected image of a quality preferred widely among a large number of people and having been stored by said image correcting method;

It is submitted that claim 15 emphasizes the features noted by the Examiner as a basis for allowing claims 1-3, 5-7, 24 and 25.

It is submitted that the independent claim 15 distinguishes over the prior art for the same reasons as claims 1-3, 5-7, 24 and 25 and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

It is submitted that claims 1-3, 5-7, 24 and 25 continue to be allowable. It is further submitted that claim 15 is not taught, disclosed or suggested by the prior art. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

If any further fees, other than and except for the issue fee, are necessary with respect to this paper, the U.S.P.T.O. is requested to obtain the same from deposit account number 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: March 27, 2008

By: /J. Randall Beckers/
J. Randall Beckers
Registration No. 30,358

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501